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# (12) United States Patent

### Masuoka et al.

# (54) METHOD FOR PRODUCING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

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- (51) **Int. Cl.**

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H01L 29/423

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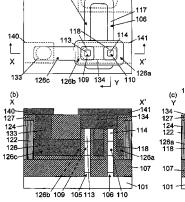
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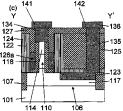
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## (57) ABSTRACT

A SGT production method includes a step of forming first and second fin-shaped silicon layers, forming a first insulating film, and forming first and second pillar-shaped silicon layers; a step of forming diffusion layers by implanting an impurity into upper portions of the first and second pillar-shaped silicon layers, upper portions of the first and second pillar-shaped silicon layers, and lower portions of the first and second pillar-shaped silicon layers; a step of forming a gate insulating film and first and second polysilicon gate electrodes; a step of forming a silicide in upper portions of the diffusion layers formed in the upper portions of the first and second fin-shaped silicon layers; and a step of depositing an interlayer insulating film, exposing and etching the first and second polysilicon gate electrodes, then depositing a metal, and forming first and second metal gate electrodes.

# 1 Claim, 47 Drawing Sheets

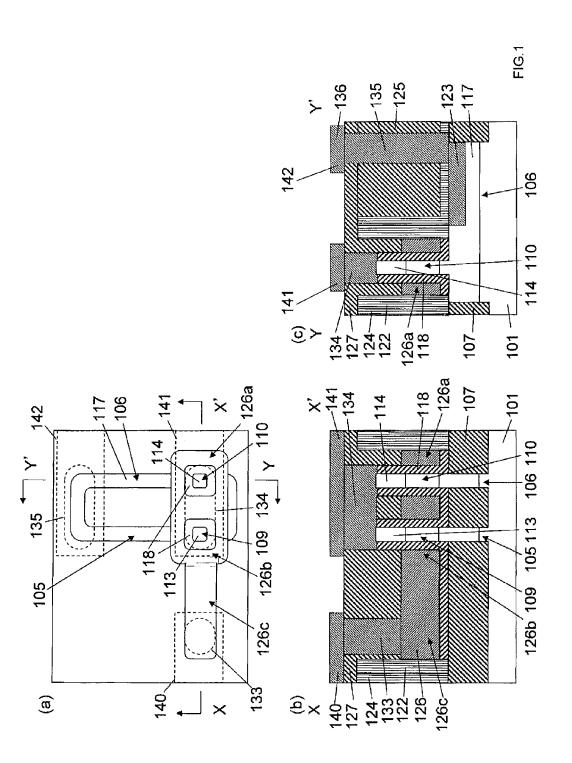


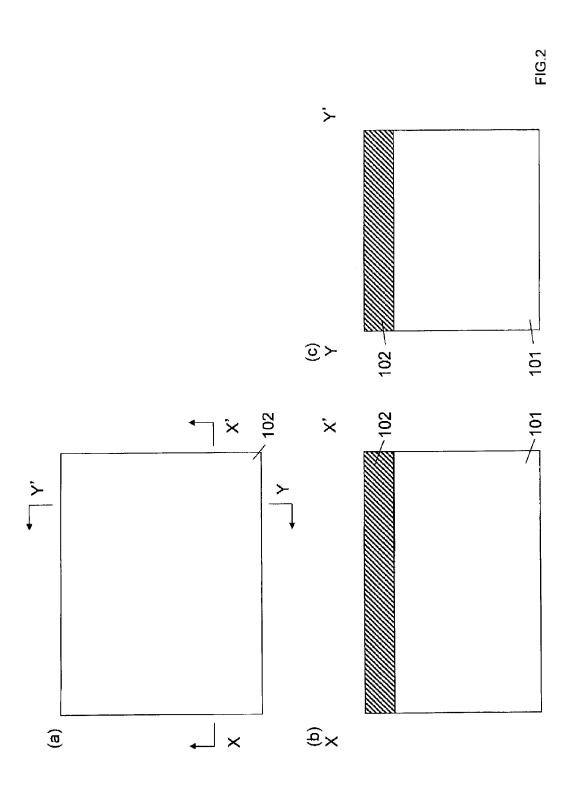


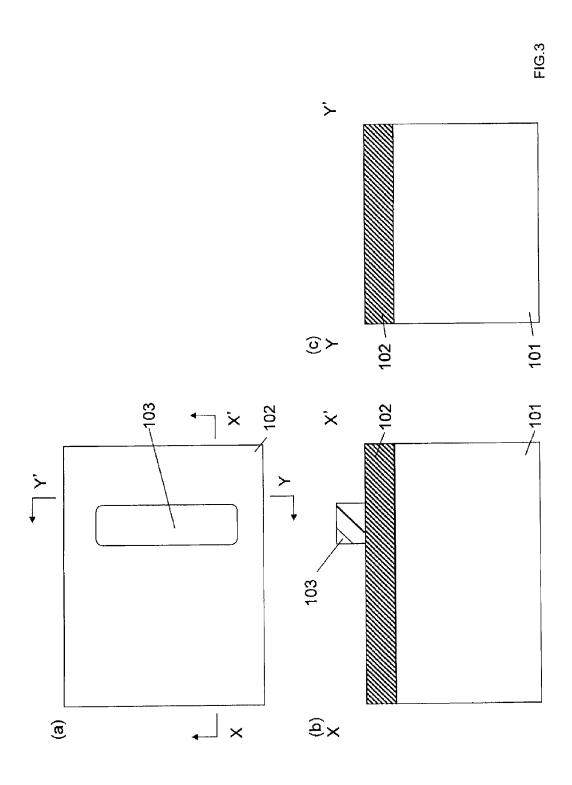
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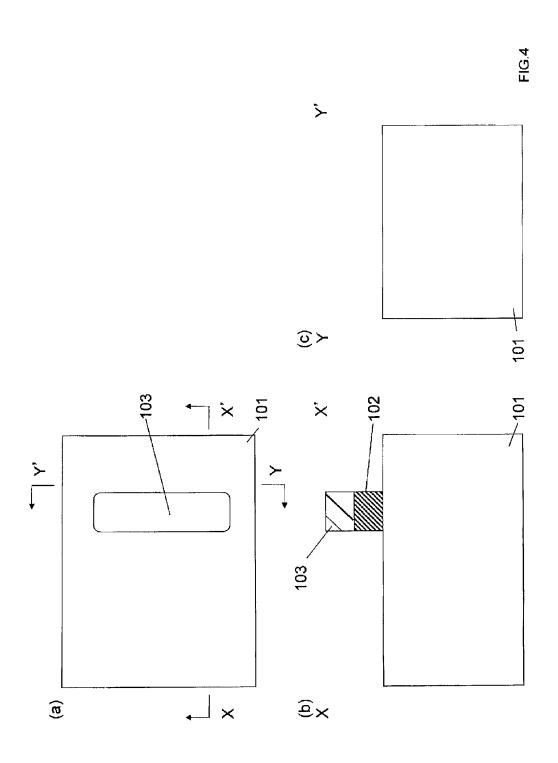
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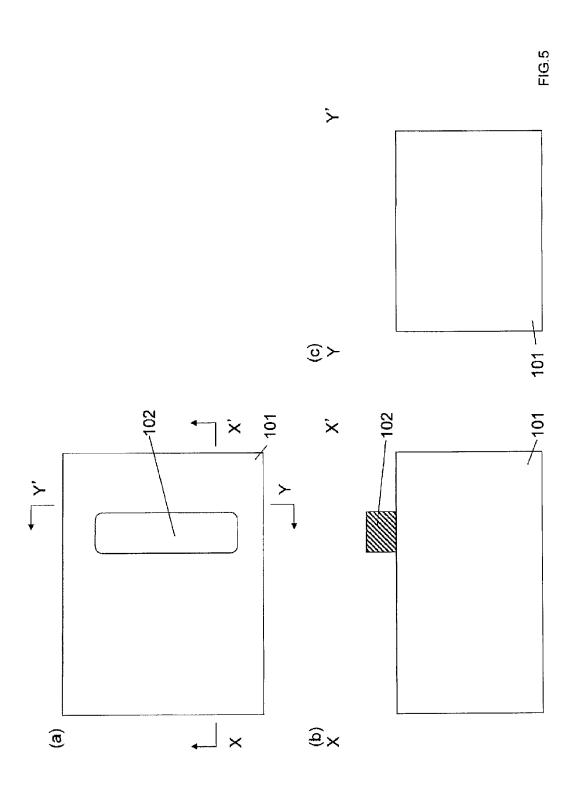
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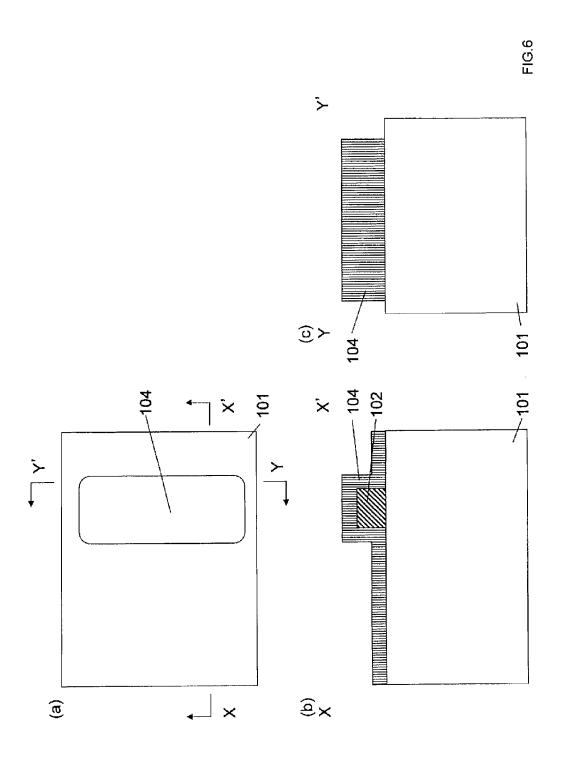


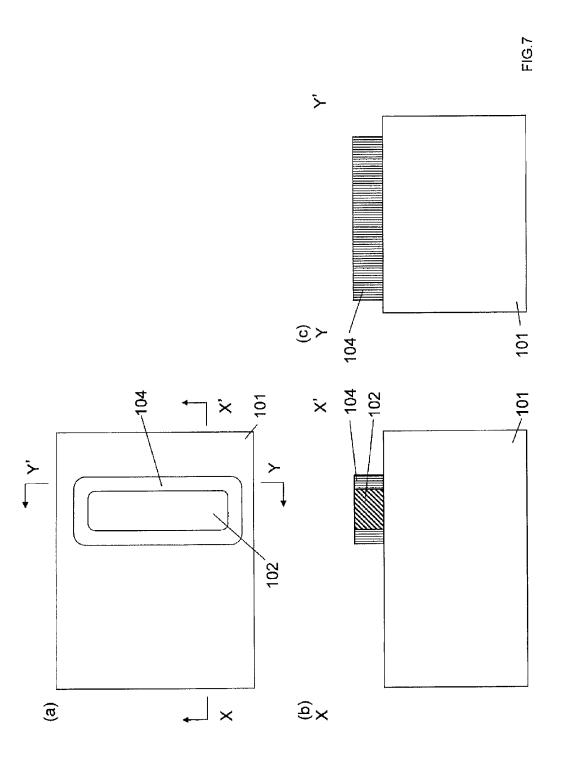


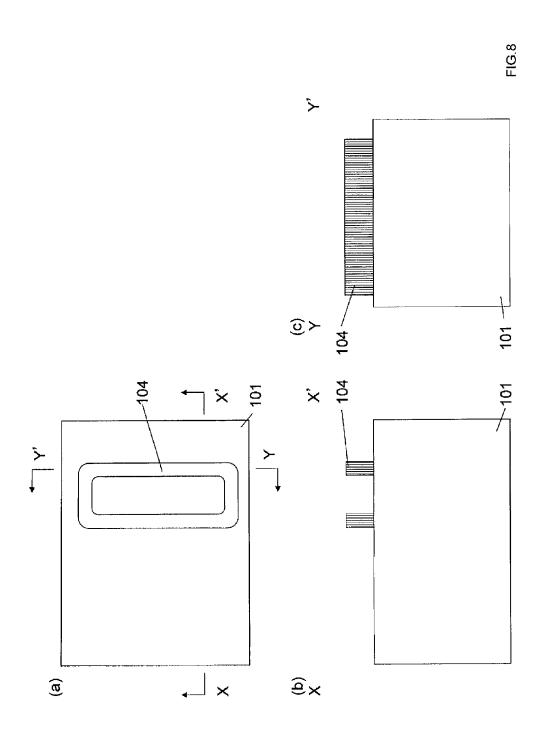


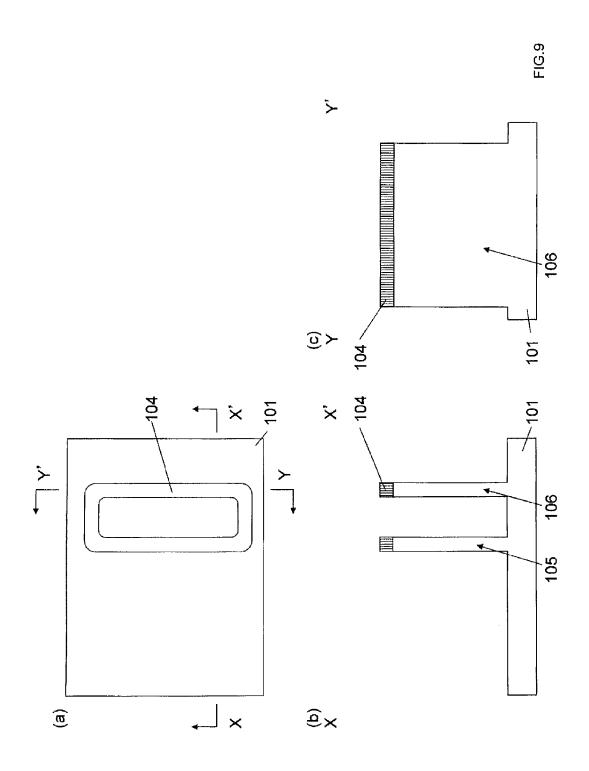


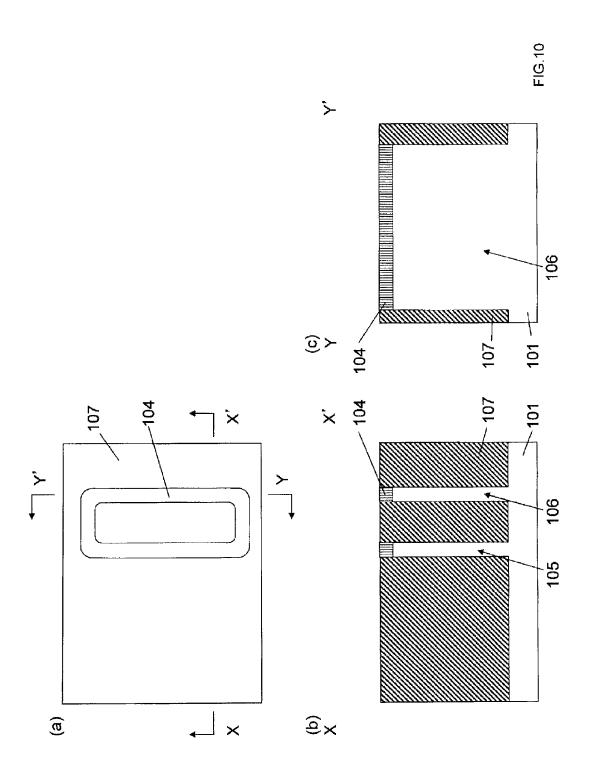


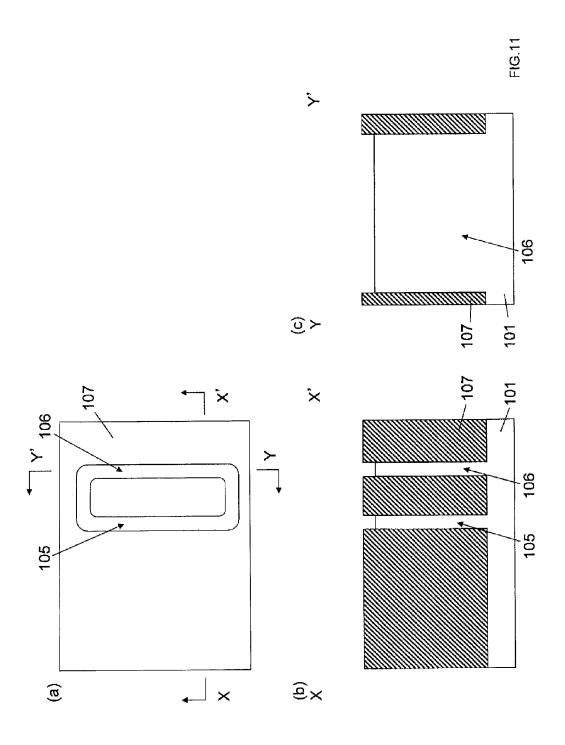


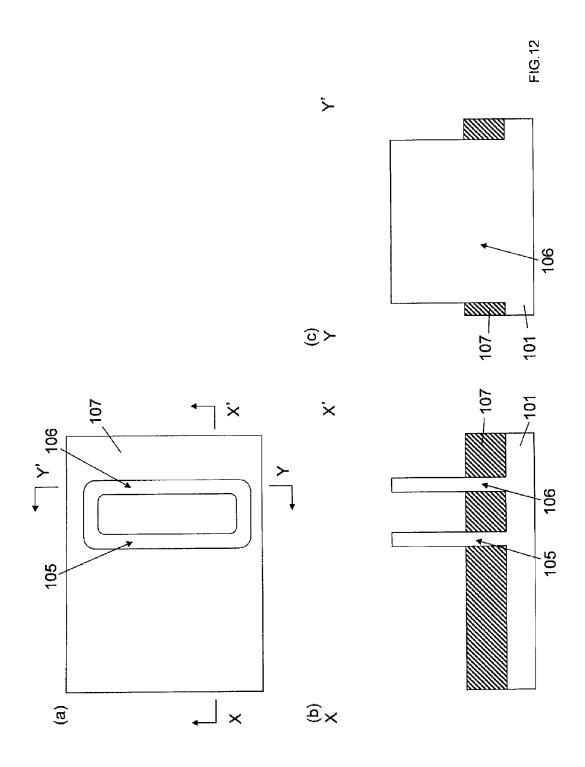


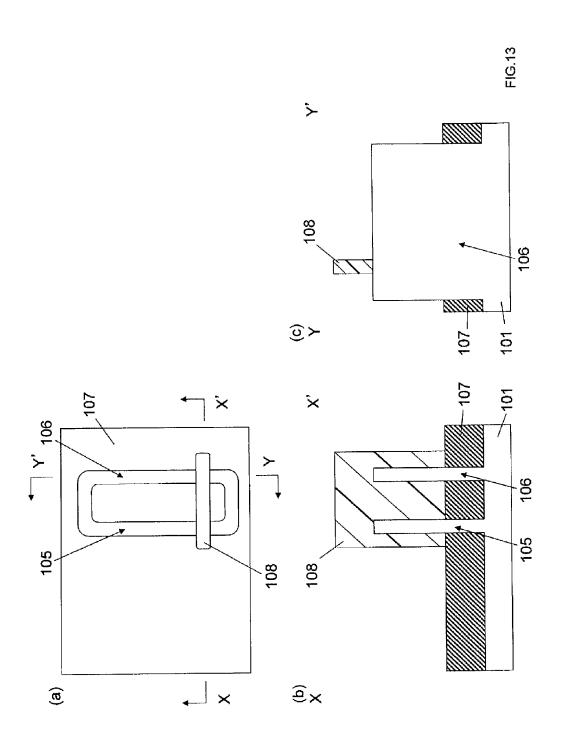


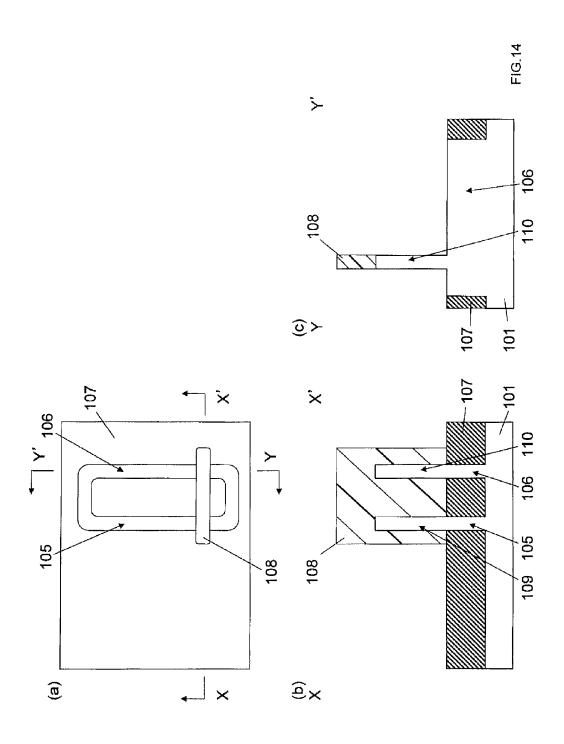


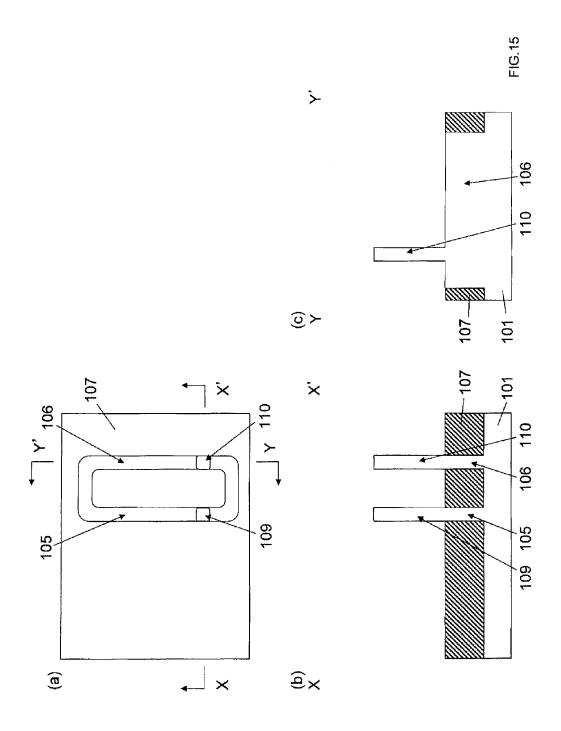


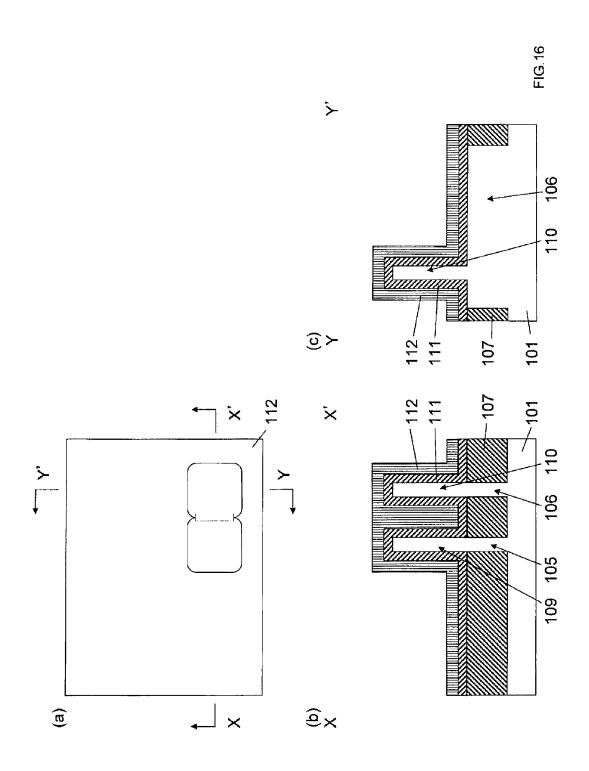


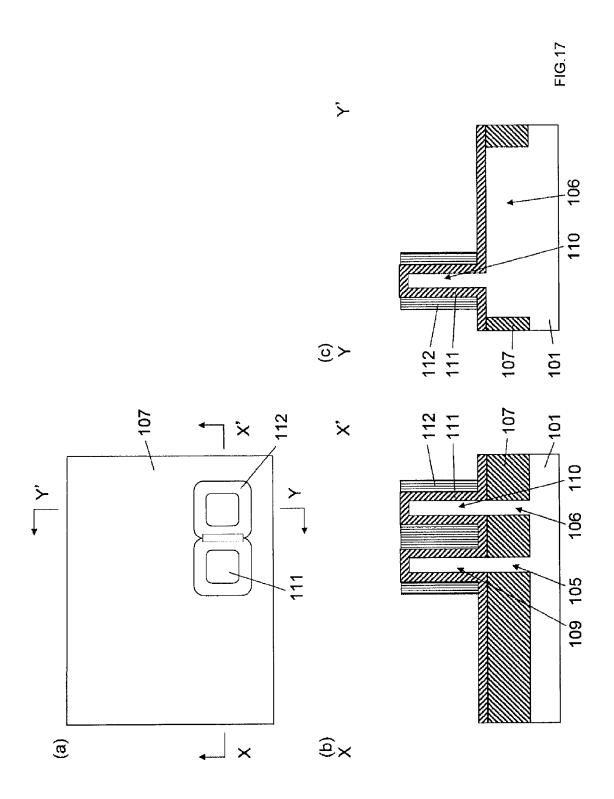


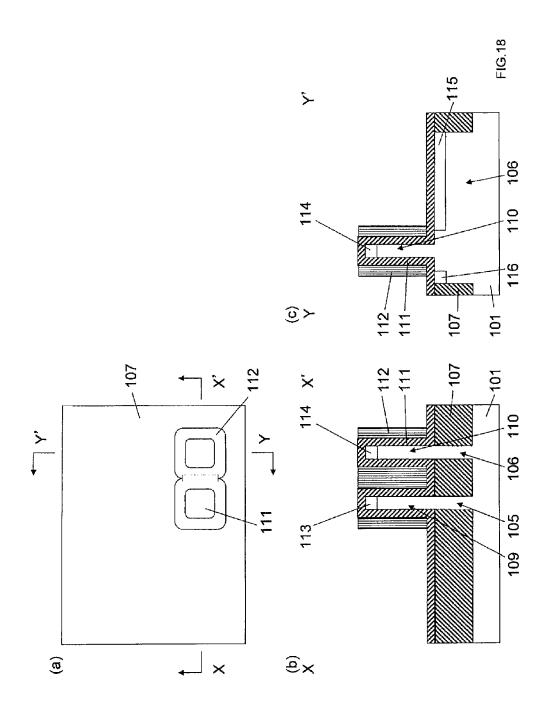


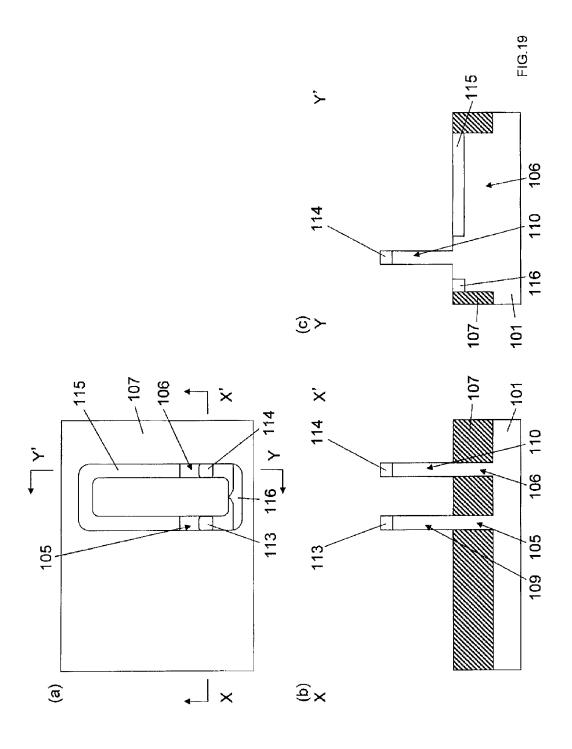


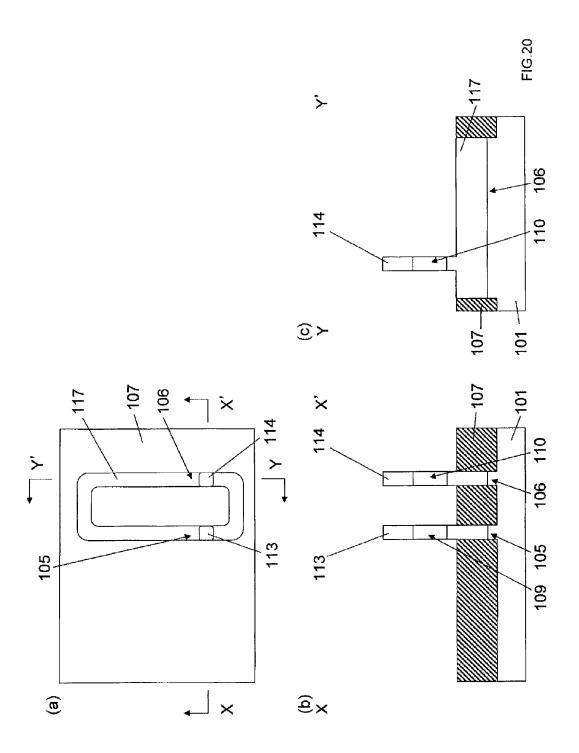


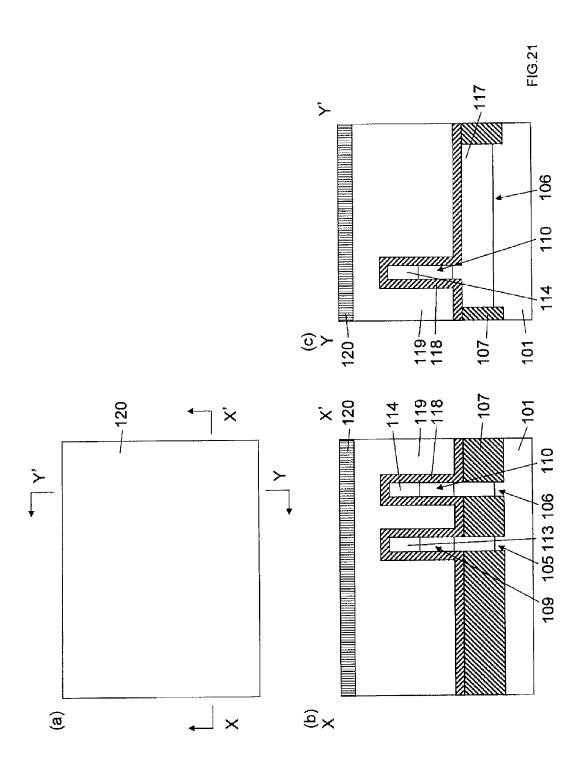




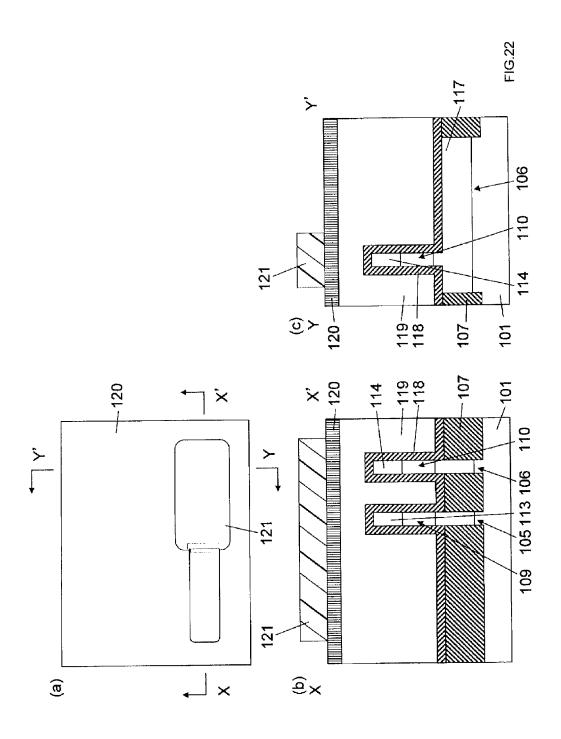


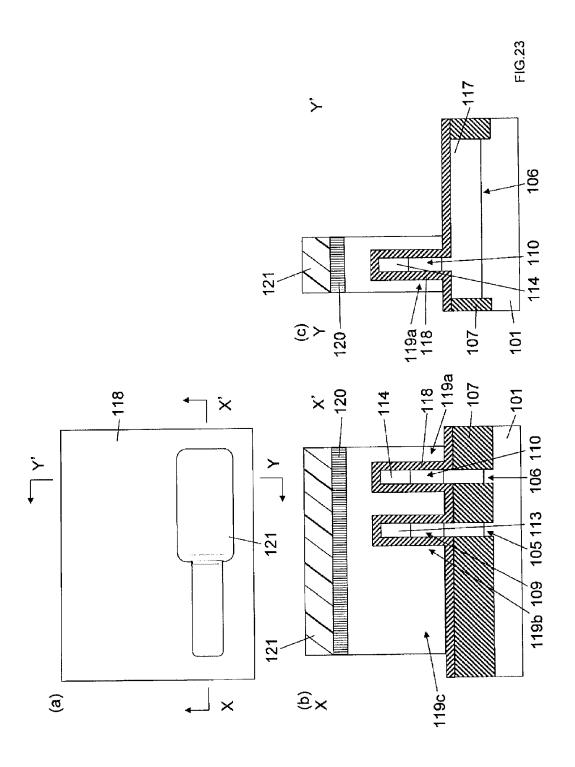


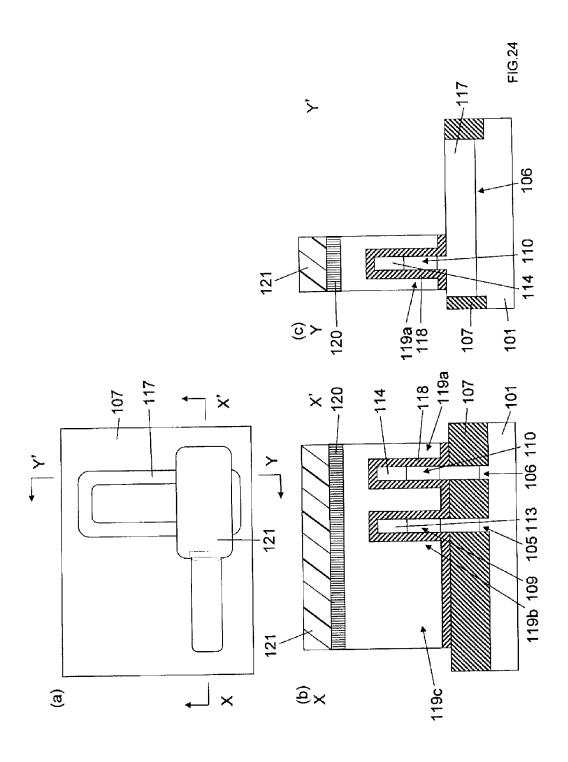


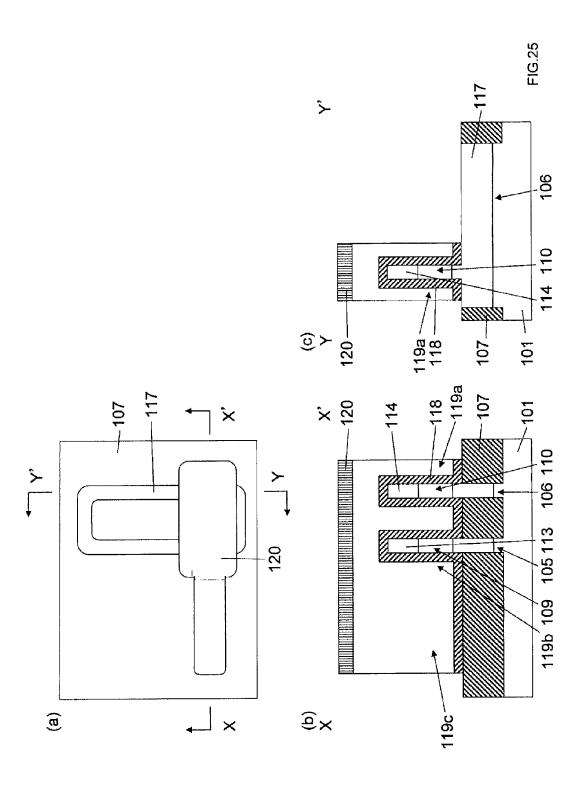


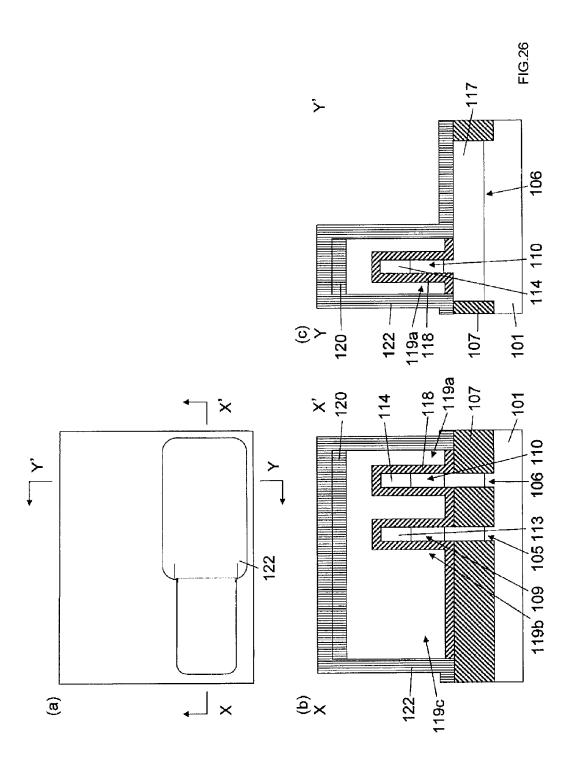
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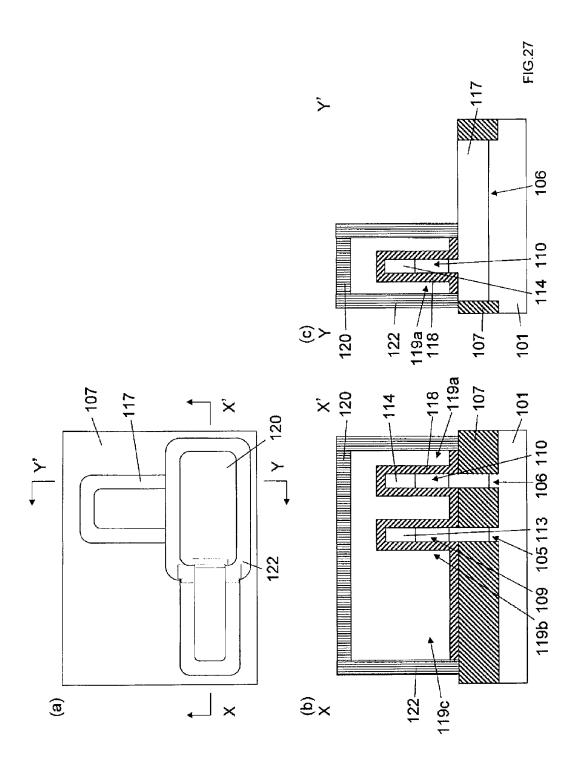


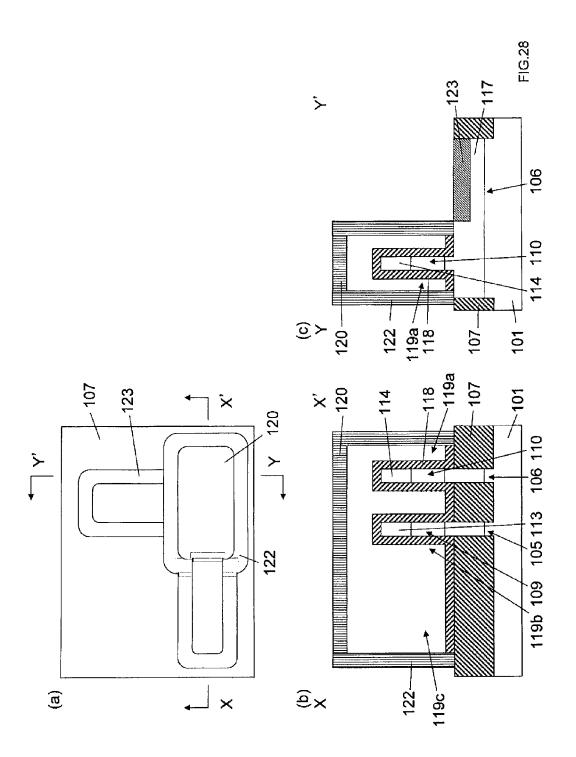


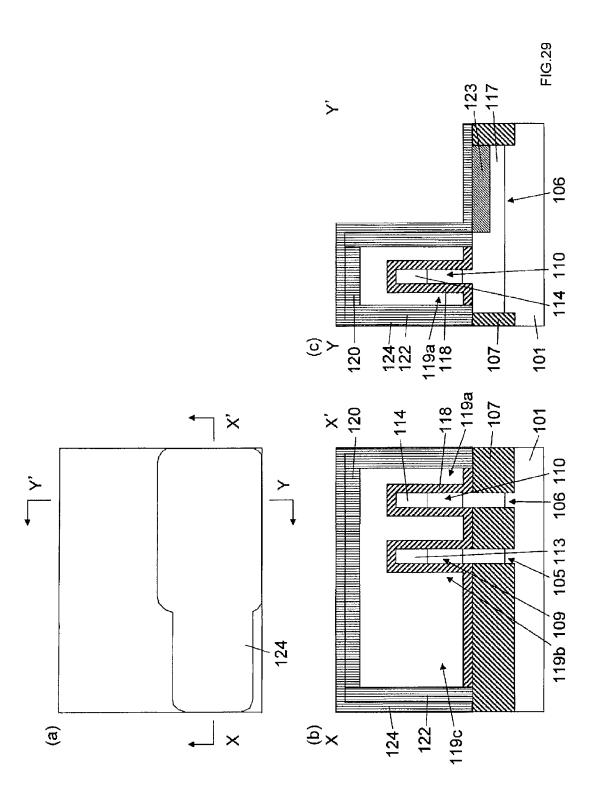


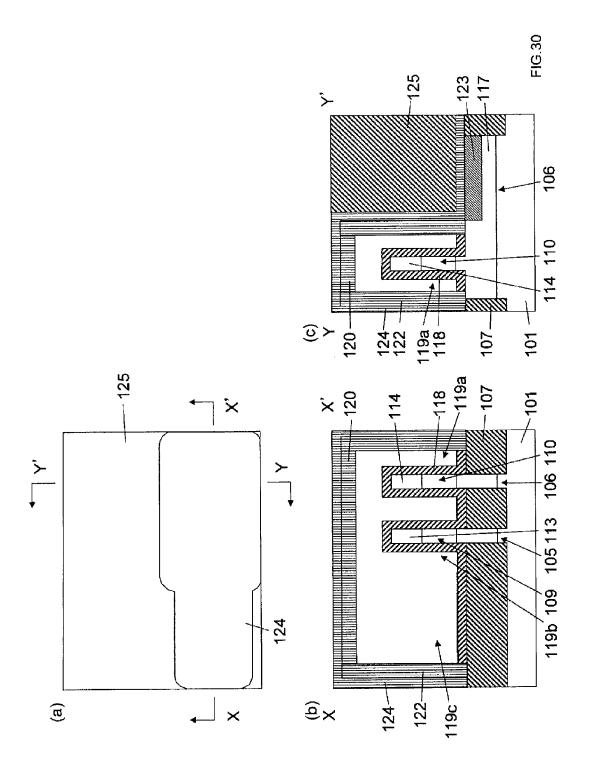


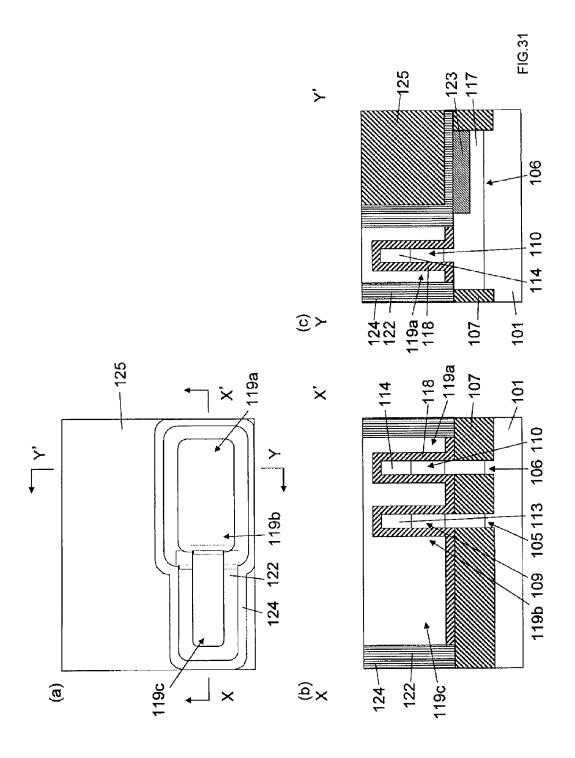


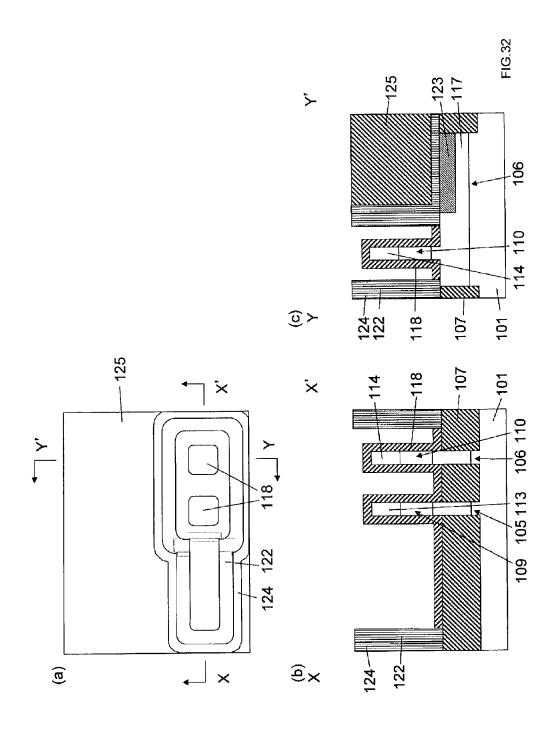


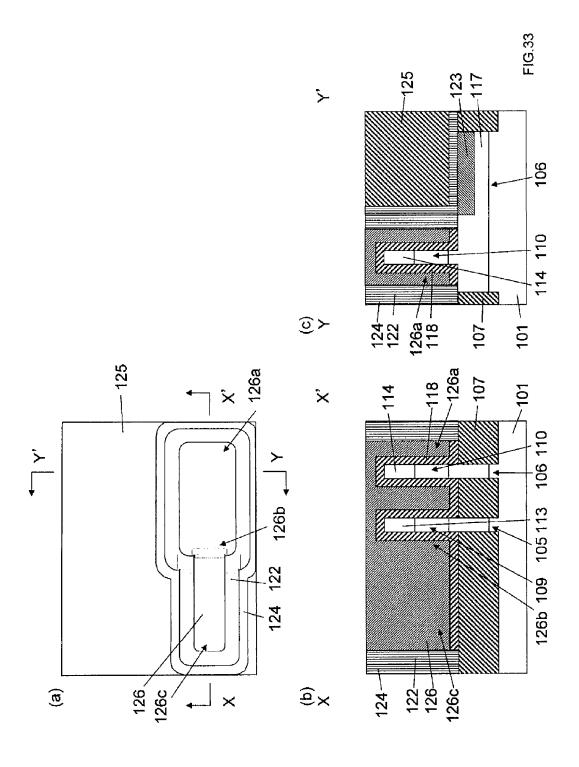


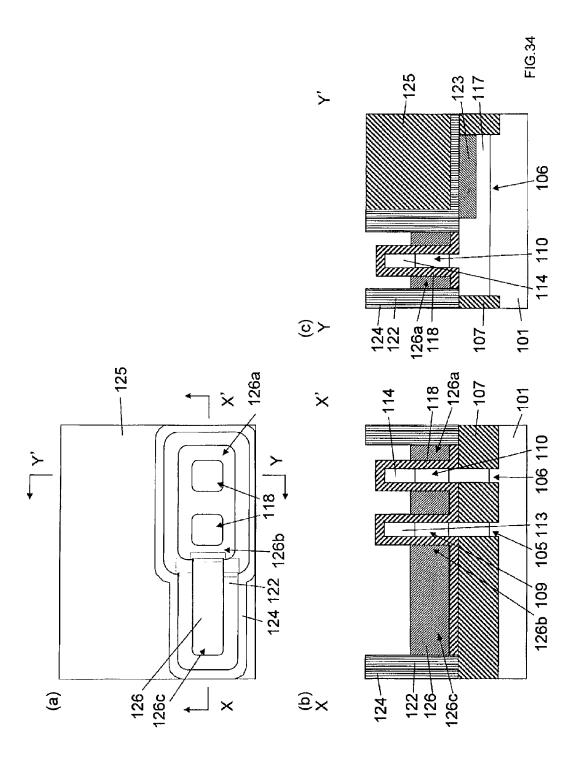


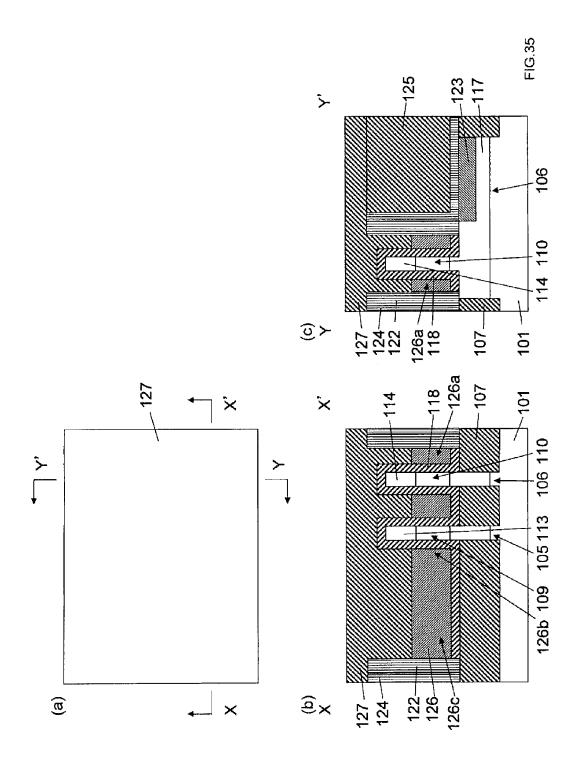


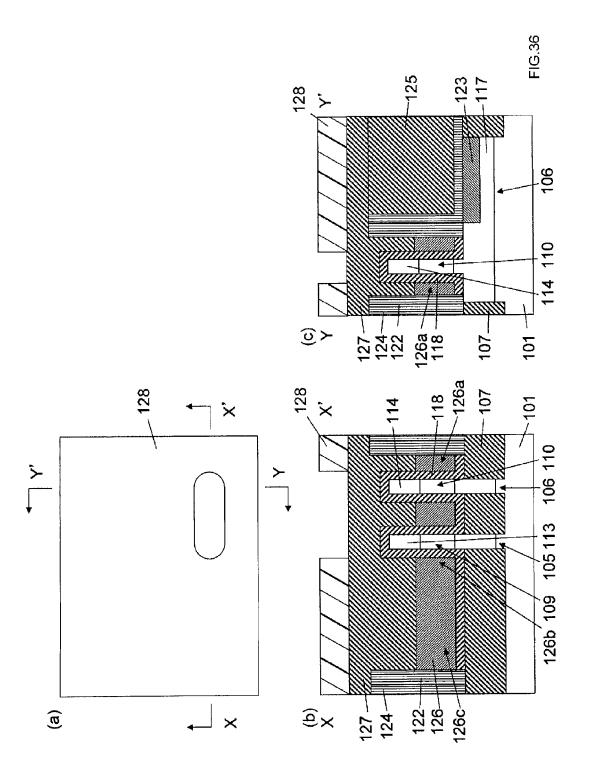


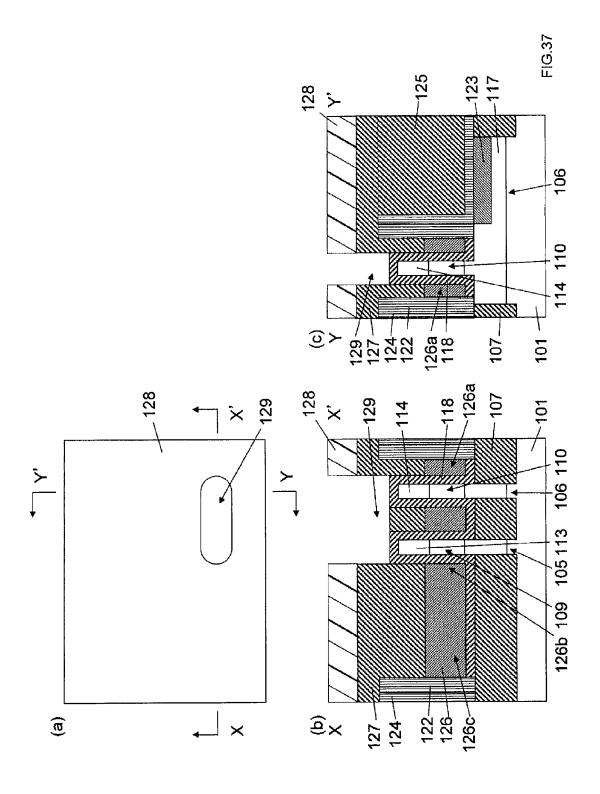




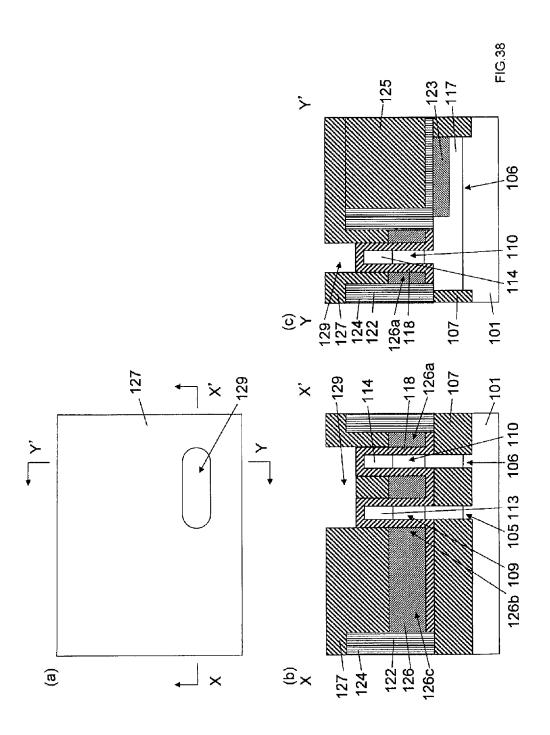


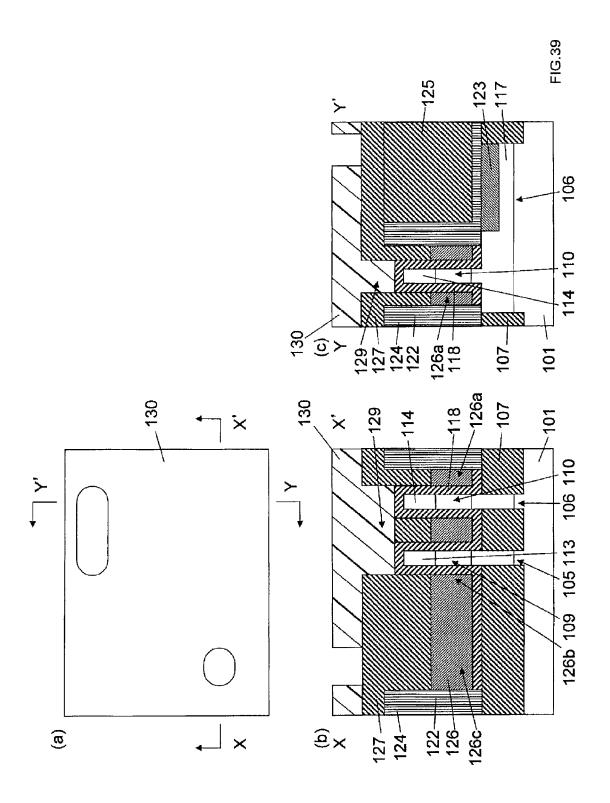


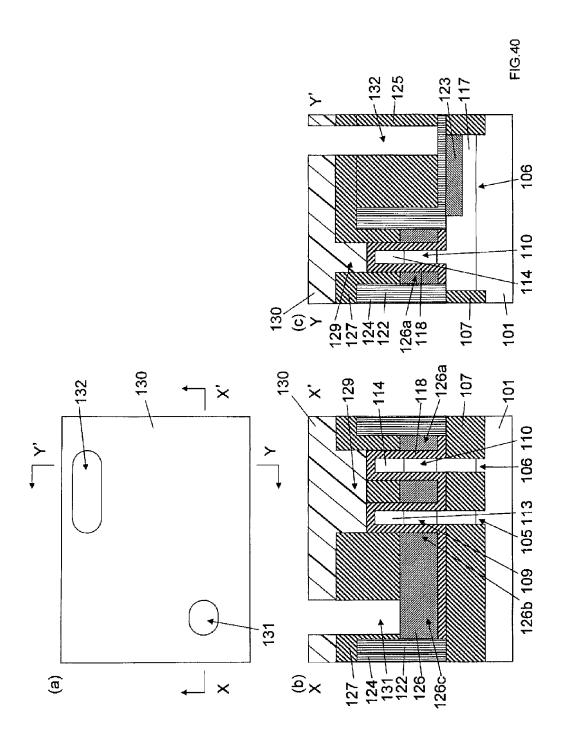


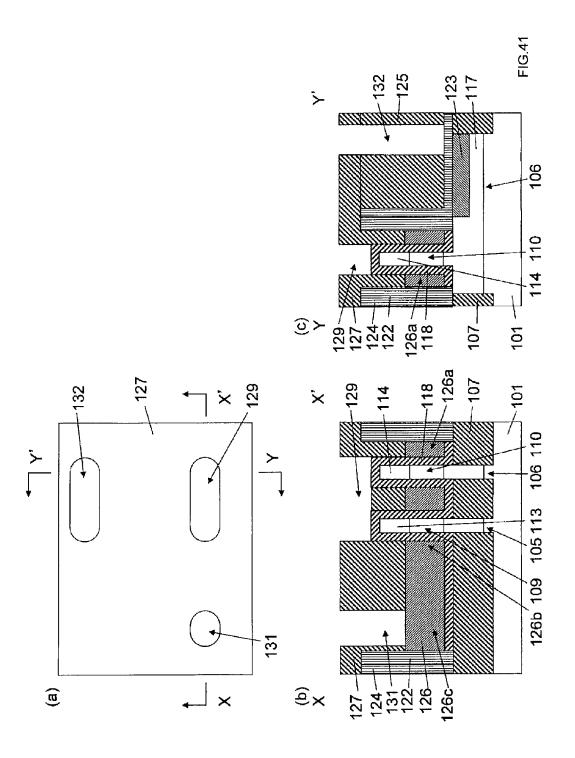


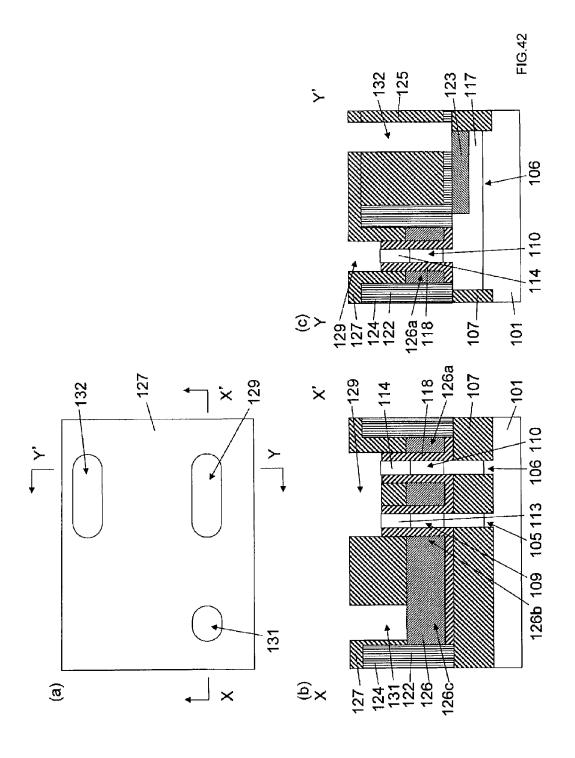
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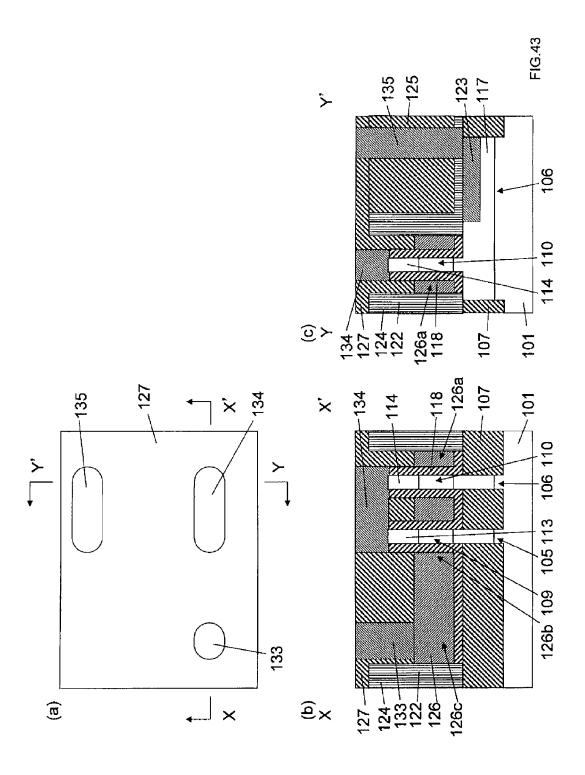


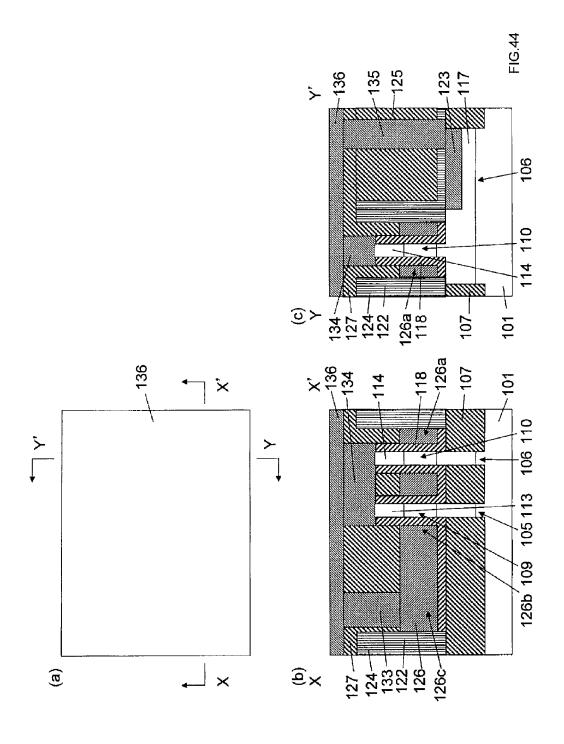


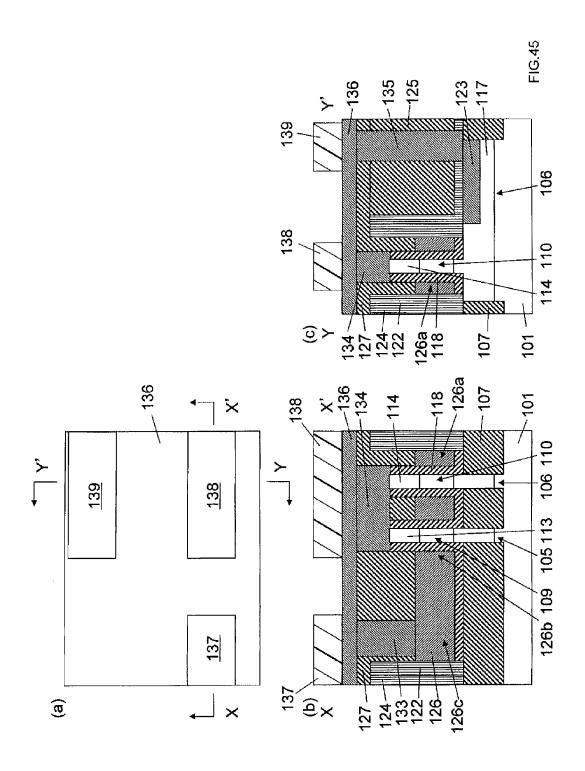


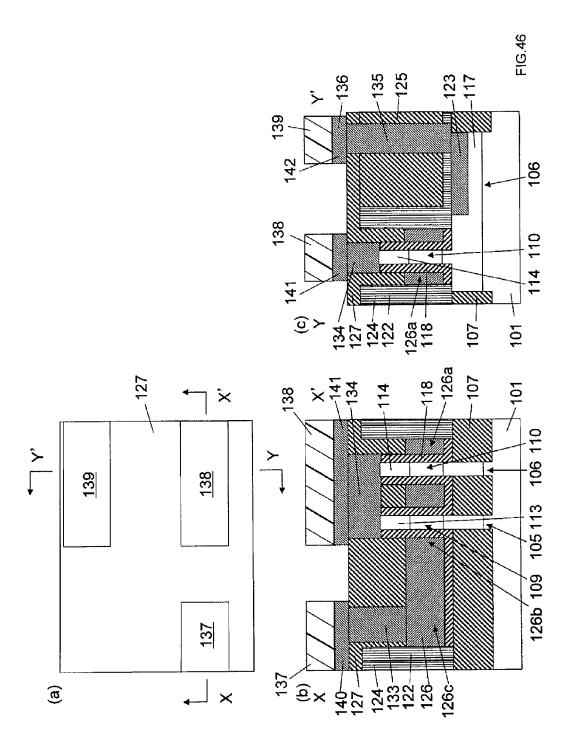


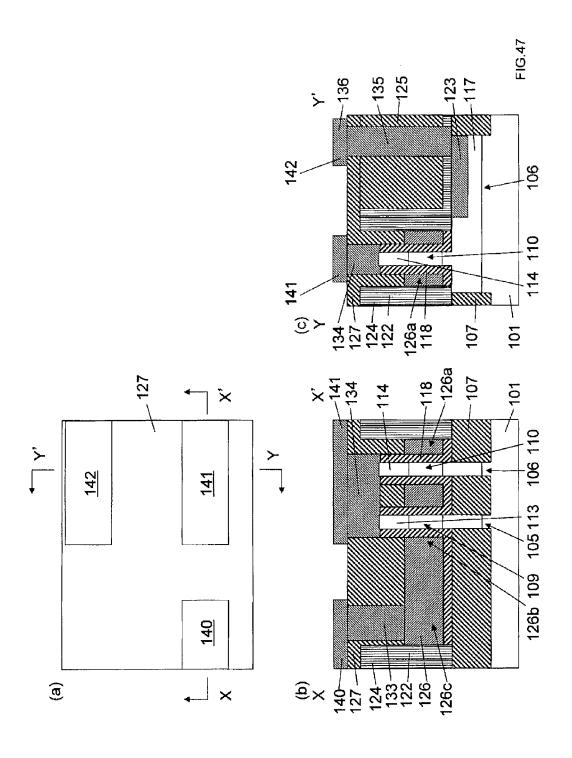












#### METHOD FOR PRODUCING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

#### RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a Continuation In Part (CIP) application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/679,225, filed Nov. 16, 2012, now U.S. Pat. No. 8,735,971, which pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §119(e), claims the benefit of the filing date of Provisional U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 61/566,244 filed on Dec. 2, 2011. The entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a semiconductor device.

2. Description of the Related Art

The degree of integration of semiconductor integrated circuits, in particular, integrated circuits using MOS transistors, has been increasing. With the increasing degree of integration, the size of MOS transistors used in integrated circuits has been decreased to nano-scale dimensions. Such a decrease in the size of MOS transistors causes difficulty in 25 suppressing leak currents, which poses a problem in that it is hard to reduce the area occupied by the circuits because of the requirements of the secure retention of necessary currents. To address the problem, a surrounding gate transistor (SGT) having a structure in which a source, a gate, and a drain are 30 arranged vertically with respect to a substrate and the gate surrounds a pillar-shaped semiconductor layer has been proposed (e.g., Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication Nos. 2-71556, 2-188966, and 3-145761).

By using a metal for gate electrodes instead of a polysilicon, the depletion can be suppressed and the resistance of the gate electrodes can be decreased. However, the production process after a metal gate is formed needs to be conducted always in consideration of metal contamination due to the metal gate.

In existing MOS transistors, in order to perform both a metal gate process and a high-temperature process, a metal gate last process in which a metal gate is formed after a high-temperature process has been employed in production of actual products (IEDM 2007 K. Mistry et al., pp. 247 to 45 250). The metal gate last process includes forming a gate using a polysilicon, then depositing an interlayer insulating film, exposing the polysilicon gate by chemical mechanical polishing, etching the polysilicon gate, and depositing a metal. Therefore, a metal gate last process in which a metal 50 gate is formed after a high-temperature process also needs to be employed in SGTs in order to perform both a metal gate process and a high-temperature process. In SGTs, since a pillar-shaped silicon layer is located at a higher position than a gate, a scheme for employing the metal gate last process is 55 required.

To decrease the parasitic capacitance between a gate line and a substrate, a first insulating film is used in existing MOS transistors. For example, in the FINFET (IEDM 2010 CC. Wu et al., 27.1.1 to 27.1.4), the parasitic capacitance between a gate line and a substrate is decreased by forming a first insulating film around a single fin-shaped semiconductor layer and etching back the first insulating film to expose the fin-shaped semiconductor layer. Therefore, such a first insulating film also needs to be used in SGTs to decrease the parasitic 65 capacitance between a gate line and a substrate. In SGTs, since a pillar-shaped semiconductor layer is formed in addi-

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tion to the fin-shaped semiconductor layer, a scheme for forming a pillar-shaped semiconductor layer is required.

Furthermore, FINFETs in which two transistors are formed from a single dummy pattern has been known (e.g., Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2011-71235). A sidewall is formed around a dummy pattern and a substrate is etched using the sidewall as a mask to form a fin, and thus two transistors are formed from a single dummy pattern.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object to provide a SGT production method in which the parasitic capacitance between a gate line and a substrate is decreased, a gate last process is employed, and two transistors are produced from a single dummy pattern and a SGT structure formed by the production method.

A method for producing a semiconductor device according to an aspect of the present invention includes:

a first step of forming, on a substrate, a first fin-shaped silicon layer and a second fin-shaped silicon layer that are connected to each other at their ends to form a closed loop, forming a first insulating film around the first fin-shaped silicon layer and second fin-shaped silicon layer, forming a first pillar-shaped silicon layer in an upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer, and forming a second pillar-shaped silicon layer in an upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer, the first pillar-shaped silicon layer having a width equal to a width of the first fin-shaped silicon layer and the second pillar-shaped silicon layer having a width equal to a width of the second fin-shaped silicon layer; after the first step, a second step of forming diffusion layers by implanting an impurity into an upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer, an upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer, and a lower portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer and forming diffusion layers by implanting an impurity into an upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer, an upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer, and a lower portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer; after the second step, a third step of forming a gate insulating film on and around the first pillar-shaped silicon layer and second pillar-shaped silicon layer, forming a first polysilicon gate electrode and a second polysilicon gate electrode so as to cover the gate insulating film, and forming a polysilicon gate line, where an upper surface of a polysilicon after the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon gate line are formed is located at a higher position than the gate insulating film on the diffusion layer in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer and the gate insulating film on the diffusion layer in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer; after the third step, a fourth step of forming a silicide in an upper portion of the diffusion layer formed in the upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer and in an upper portion of the diffusion layer formed in the second fin-shaped silicon layer; after the fourth step, a fifth step of depositing an interlayer insulating film, exposing the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon gate line, etching the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon gate line, then depositing a metal, and forming a first metal gate electrode, a second metal gate electrode, and a metal gate line, the metal gate line being connected to the first metal gate electrode and second metal gate electrode and extending in a direction perpendicular to a direction in which the first fin-shaped silicon layer and second fin-shaped silicon layer extend; and, after the fifth step, a sixth step of forming a contact that is

directly connected to the diffusion layer in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer and the diffusion layer in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer.

Preferably, the first step includes depositing a second oxide film on a substrate in order to form a dummy pattern; forming 5 a first resist for forming the dummy pattern; etching the second oxide film to form the dummy pattern; removing the first resist; depositing a first nitride film; forming a first nitride film sidewall around the dummy pattern by etching the first nitride film in such a manner that the first nitride film is made to remain in a sidewall shape; removing the dummy pattern; etching the substrate using the first nitride film sidewall as a mask to form the first fin-shaped silicon layer and the second fin-shaped silicon layer that are connected to each other at their ends to form a closed loop; forming the first insulating 15 film around the first fin-shaped silicon layer and second finshaped silicon layer; removing the first nitride film sidewall; etching back the first insulating film to expose an upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer and an upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer; forming a second resist 20 so as to be perpendicular to the first fin-shaped silicon layer and second fin-shaped silicon layer; etching the first finshaped silicon layer and the second fin-shaped silicon layer; and removing the second resist to form the first pillar-shaped silicon layer such that a portion in which the first fin-shaped 25 silicon layer is perpendicular to the second resist is the first pillar-shaped silicon layer and to form the second pillarshaped silicon layer such that a portion in which the second fin-shaped silicon layer is perpendicular to the second resist is the second pillar-shaped silicon layer.

Preferably, the second step performed after the first step includes depositing a third oxide film on the entire structure formed in the first step; forming a second nitride film; etching the second nitride film in such a manner that the second nitride film is made to remain in a sidewall shape; forming the 35 diffusion layers by implanting an impurity into the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer, the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer, and the upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer; removing the second 40 nitride film and the third oxide film; and performing a heat treatment

Preferably, the third step performed after the second step includes forming the gate insulating film so as to surround silicon pillars; depositing and planarizing a polysilicon such 45 that an upper surface of the planarized polysilicon is located at a higher position than the gate insulating film on the diffusion layer formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer and the gate insulating film on the diffusion layer formed in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer; depositing a third nitride film; forming a third resist for forming the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon to form the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon to form the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon gate line; etching the gate insulating film; and removing the third resist.

Preferably, a fourth nitride film is deposited on the entire structure formed in the third step, the fourth nitride film is etched in such a manner that the fourth nitride film is made to 60 remain in a sidewall shape, and a metal is deposited to form the silicide in the upper portions of the diffusion layers formed in the upper portions of the first fin-shaped silicon layer and second fin-shaped silicon layer.

Preferably, a fifth nitride film is deposited on the entire 65 structure formed in the fourth step; an interlayer insulating film is deposited and planarized by chemical mechanical

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polishing; the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon gate line are exposed by chemical mechanical polishing; the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon gate line are etched; a metal is deposited to fill, with the metal, portions in which the first polysilicon gate electrode, the second polysilicon gate electrode, and the polysilicon gate line have been present; and the metal is etched to expose the gate insulating film on the diffusion layer in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer and the gate insulating film on the diffusion layer in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer and to form the first metal gate electrode, the second metal gate electrode, and the metal gate line.

A semiconductor device according to another aspect of the present invention includes a first fin-shaped semiconductor layer formed on a substrate, a second fin-shaped semiconductor layer formed on the substrate, the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer being connected to each other at their ends to form a closed loop, a first insulating film formed around the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and second fin-shaped semiconductor layer, a first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer formed on the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and having a width equal to a width of the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer, a second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer formed on the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer and having a width equal to a width of the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer, a diffusion layer formed in an upper portion of the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and a lower portion of the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer, a diffusion layer formed in an upper portion of the first pillarshaped semiconductor layer, a diffusion layer formed in an upper portion of the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer and a lower portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer, a diffusion layer formed in an upper portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer, a silicide formed in upper portions of the diffusion layers formed in the upper portion of the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and in the upper portion of the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer, a gate insulating film formed around the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer, a first metal gate electrode formed around the gate insulating film, a gate insulating film formed around the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer, a second metal gate electrode formed around the gate insulating film, a metal gate line that is connected to the first metal gate electrode and the second metal gate electrode and that extends in a direction perpendicular to a direction in which the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and second fin-shaped semiconductor layer extend, a contact formed on the diffusion layer formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer so as to be directly connected to the diffusion layer, and a contact formed on the diffusion layer formed in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer so as to be directly connected to the diffusion layer.

The present invention can provide a SGT production method in which the parasitic capacitance between a gate line and a substrate is decreased, a gate last process is employed, and two transistors are produced from a single dummy pattern and a SGT structure formed by the production method.

Two SGTs can be easily produced from a single dummy pattern by employing a method for producing an existing FINFET. In the method, a sidewall is formed around a dummy pattern and a substrate is etched using the sidewall as a mask to form a fin, and thus two transistors are formed from a single dummy pattern.

In addition, a metal gate SGT can be easily produced because a production method that employs an existing metal gate last process can be used. A silicide has been conventionally formed in an upper portion of a pillar-shaped silicon layer, but the temperature at which a polysilicon is deposited is higher than the temperature at which a silicide is formed and thus a silicide needs to be formed after the formation of a polysilicon gate. If a silicide is formed in an upper portion of a silicon pillar, a polysilicon gate is formed, a hole is made above a polysilicon gate electrode, an insulating film is formed on the sidewall of the hole, a silicide is formed, and the hole is filled with an insulating film. This increases the number of production steps. Therefore, the existing metal gate last process below can be employed. A diffusion layer is formed before the formation of a polysilicon gate electrode and a polysilicon gate line. By covering a pillar-shaped silicon layer with the polysilicon gate electrode and by forming a silicide only in an upper portion of a fin-shaped silicon layer, a polysilicon gate is formed. Subsequently, an interlayer insulating film is deposited and then the polysilicon gate is exposed by chemical mechanical polishing. The polysilicon gate is etched and then a metal is deposited.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1(a) is a plan view of a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 1(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 1(a), and FIG. 1(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 1(a);

FIG. 2(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 2(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 2(a), and FIG. 2(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 2(a);

FIG. 3(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 3(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 3(a), and FIG. 3(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 3(a);

FIG. 4(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 4(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 4(a), and FIG. 4(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 4(a);

FIG. 5(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 5(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 5(a), and FIG. 5(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 5(a);

FIG.  $\mathbf{6}(a)$  is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG.  $\mathbf{6}(b)$  is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG.  $\mathbf{6}(a)$ , and FIG.  $\mathbf{6}(c)$  is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG.  $\mathbf{6}(a)$ ;

FIG. 7(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 7(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 7(a), and FIG. 7(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 7(a);

FIG. 8(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 8(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 8(a), and FIG. 8(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 8(a);

FIG. 9(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the

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present invention, FIG. 9(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 9(a), and FIG. 9(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 9(a);

FIG.  $\mathbf{10}(a)$  is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG.  $\mathbf{10}(b)$  is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG.  $\mathbf{10}(a)$ , and FIG.  $\mathbf{10}(c)$  is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG.  $\mathbf{10}(a)$ ;

FIG.  $\mathbf{11}(a)$  is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG.  $\mathbf{11}(b)$  is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG.  $\mathbf{11}(a)$ , and FIG.  $\mathbf{11}(c)$  is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG.  $\mathbf{11}(a)$ ;

FIG. 12(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 12(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 12(a), and FIG. 12(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 12(a);

FIG. 13(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 13(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 13(a), and FIG. 13(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 13(a);

FIG. 14(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 14(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 14(a), and FIG. 14(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 14(a);

FIG. 15(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 15(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 15(a), and FIG. 15(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 15(a);

FIG. 16(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 16(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 16(a), and FIG. 16(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 16(a);

FIG. 17(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 17(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 17(a), and FIG. 17(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 17(a);

FIG. 18(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 18(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 18(a), and FIG. 18(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 18(a);

FIG. 19(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 19(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 19(a), and FIG. 19(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 19(a);

FIG. 20(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 20(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 20(a), and FIG. 20(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 20(a);

FIG. 21(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 21(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 21(a), and FIG. 21(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 21(a);

FIG. 22(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 22(b) is a sectional view taken along

line X-X' of FIG. 22(a), and FIG. 22(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 22(a);

FIG. 23(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 23(b) is a sectional view taken along 5 line X-X' of FIG. 23(a), and FIG. 23(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 23(a);

FIG. 24(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 24(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 24(a), and FIG. 24(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 24(a);

FIG. 25(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 25(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 25(a), and FIG. 25(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 25(a);

FIG. 26(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 26(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 26(a), and FIG. 26(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 26(a);

FIG. 27(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 27(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 27(a), and FIG. 27(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 27(a);

FIG. 28(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 28(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 28(a), and FIG. 28(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 28(a);

FIG. 29(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 29(b) is a sectional view taken along 35 line X-X' of FIG. 29(a), and FIG. 29(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 29(a);

FIG. 30(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 30(b) is a sectional view taken along 40 line X-X' of FIG. 30(a), and FIG. 30(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 30(a);

FIG. 31(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 31(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 31(a), and FIG. 31(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 31(a);

FIG. 32(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 32(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 32(a), and FIG. 32(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 32(a);

FIG. 33(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 33(b) is a sectional view taken along 55 line X-X' of FIG. 33(a), and FIG. 33(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 33(a);

FIG. 34(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 34(b) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 34(a), and FIG. 34(a) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 34(a); present invention, FIG. 47(b) is a section invention, FIG. 47(b) is a section X-X' of FIG. 47(a), and FIG. 47(a).

FIG. 35(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 35(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 35(a), and FIG. 35(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 35(a);

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FIG. 36(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 36(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 36(a), and FIG. 36(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 36(a);

FIG. 37(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 37(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 37(a), and FIG. 37(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 37(a);

FIG. 38(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 38(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 38(a), and FIG. 38(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 38(a);

FIG. 39(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 39(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 39(a), and FIG. 39(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 39(a);

FIG. 40(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 40(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 40(a), and FIG. 40(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 40(a);

FIG. 41(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 41(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 41(a), and FIG. 41(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 41(a);

FIG. 42(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 42(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 42(a), and FIG. 42(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 42(a);

FIG. 43(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 43(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 43(a), and FIG. 43(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 43(a);

FIG. 44(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 44(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 44(a), and FIG. 44(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 44(a);

FIG. **45**(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. **45**(a) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. **45**(a), and FIG. **45**(a) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. **45**(a);

FIG. 46(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 46(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 46(a), and FIG. 46(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 46(a); and

FIG. 47(a) is a plan view showing a method for producing a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 47(b) is a sectional view taken along line X-X' of FIG. 47(a), and FIG. 47(c) is a sectional view taken along line Y-Y' of FIG. 47(a).

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

A production process for forming a SGT structure according to an embodiment of the present invention will now be described with reference to FIGS. 2 to 47.

A production method is described that includes forming a first fin-shaped silicon layer and a second fin-shaped silicon layer on a substrate, forming a first insulating film around the first fin-shaped silicon layer and second fin-shaped silicon layer, forming a first pillar-shaped silicon layer in an upper 5 portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer, and forming a second pillar-shaped silicon layer in an upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer. As shown in FIG. 2, a second oxide film 102 is deposited on a silicon substrate 101 in order to form a dummy pattern. A nitride film or a laminated film of 10 an oxide film and a polysilicon may be used.

As shown in FIG. 3, a first resist 103 for forming the dummy pattern is formed.

As shown in FIG. 4, the second oxide film 102 is etched to form the dummy pattern 102.

As shown in FIG. 5, the first resist 103 is removed.

As shown in FIG. 6, a first nitride film 104 is deposited.

As shown in FIG. 7, by etching the first nitride film 104, the first nitride film 104 is made to remain in a sidewall shape. Thus, a first nitride film sidewall 104 is formed around the 20 dummy pattern 102. By etching silicon using the formed first nitride film sidewall 104, a first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and a second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 that are connected to each other at their ends to form a closed loop will be formed

As shown in FIG. 8, the dummy pattern 102 is removed.

As shown in FIG. 9, by etching the silicon substrate 101 using the first nitride film sidewall 104 as a mask, a first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and a second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 that are connected to each other at their ends to form 30 a loop are formed.

As shown in FIG. 10, a first insulating film 107 is formed around the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106.

An oxide film formed using high-density plasma or an 35 oxide film formed by low-pressure chemical vapor deposition may be used as the first insulating film.

As shown in FIG. 11, the first nitride film sidewall 104 is removed. In the case where the first nitride film sidewall 104 is removed during the silicon etching or the oxide film deposition, this step is skipped.

As shown in FIG. 12, the first insulating film 107 is etched back to expose an upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and an upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106.

As shown in FIG. 13, a second resist 108 is formed so as to be perpendicular to the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106. The portions in which the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 are perpendicular to the resist 108 are portions 50 to be formed into pillar-shaped silicon layers. Since the resist can be formed linearly, there is a low probability of the resist falling over after the patterning. Consequently, the process can be stably performed.

As shown in FIG. 14, the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 are etched. The portion in which the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 is perpendicular to the second resist 108 becomes a first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109. The portion in which the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 is perpendicular to the second resist 108 becomes a second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110. Therefore, the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 has a width equal to the width of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105. The second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110 has a width equal to the width of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106.

As a result, a structure is formed in which the first pillarshaped silicon layer 109 is formed in the upper portion of the 10

first fin-shaped silicon layer 105, the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110 is formed in the upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106, and the first insulating film 107 is formed around the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106.

As shown in FIG. 15, the second resist 108 is removed.

Next, there is described a production method that includes, in order to achieve gate last, forming diffusion layers by implanting an impurity into an upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109, an upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105, and a lower portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and forming diffusion layers by implanting an impurity into an upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110, an upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106, and a lower portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110.

As shown in FIG. 16, a third oxide film 111 is deposited and a second nitride film 112 is formed. Since the upper portions of the pillar-shaped silicon layers will be covered with a gate insulating film and a polysilicon gate electrode later, diffusion layers are formed in the upper portions of the pillar-shaped silicon layers before covered with the gate insulating film and polysilicon gate electrode.

As shown in FIG. 17, by etching the second nitride film 25 112, the second nitride film 112 is made to remain in a sidewall shape.

As shown in FIG. 18, an impurity such as arsenic, phosphorus, or boron is implanted to form a diffusion layer 113 in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109, diffusion layers 115 and 116 in the upper portions of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105, a diffusion layer 114 in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110, and diffusion layers 115 and 116 in the upper portions of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106.

As shown in FIG. 19, the second nitride film 112 and the third oxide film 111 are removed.

As shown in FIG. 20, a heat treatment is performed. The diffusion layers 115 and 116 in the upper portions of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 are brought into contact with each other and thus a diffusion layer 117 is formed. In order to achieve gate last, the diffusion layers 113 and 117 are formed by implanting an impurity into the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109, the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109; and the lower portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109; and the diffusion layers 114 and 117 are formed by implanting an impurity into the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110, the upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106, and the lower portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110.

Next, there is described a production method that includes, in order to achieve gate last, forming a first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, a second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and a polysilicon gate line 119c using a polysilicon. To achieve gate last, an interlayer insulating film is deposited and then polysilicon gate electrodes and a polysilicon gate line are exposed by chemical mechanical polishing. Therefore, the upper portions of the pillar-shaped silicon layers need to be prevented from being exposed by the chemical mechanical polishing.

As shown in FIG. 21, a gate insulating film 118 is formed and a polysilicon 119 is deposited and planarized. The upper surface of the planarized polysilicon 119 is located at a higher position than the gate insulating film 118 on the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and the gate insulating film 118 on the diffusion layer 114 formed in the upper portion of the second

pillar-shaped silicon layer 110. Thus, when the interlayer insulating film is deposited and then the polysilicon gate electrodes and polysilicon gate line are exposed by chemical mechanical polishing in order to achieve gate last, the upper portions of the pillar-shaped silicon layers can be prevented 5 from being exposed by chemical mechanical polishing.

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A third nitride film 120 is deposited. The third nitride film 120 is a film that, when a silicide is formed in the upper portions of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106, prevents the formation of the 10 silicide in upper portions of a first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, a second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and a polysilicon gate line 119c.

As shown in FIG. 22, a third resist 121 for forming a first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, a second polysilicon gate 15 electrode 119a, and a polysilicon gate line 119c is formed. A portion to be the gate line is desirably perpendicular to the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 to decrease the parasitic capacitance between the gate line and the substrate.

As shown in FIG. 23, the third nitride film 120 is etched and the polysilicon 119 is etched to form a first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, a second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and a polysilicon gate line 119c.

As shown in FIG. 24, the gate insulating film 118 is etched. 25 As shown in FIG. 25, the third resist 121 is removed.

The production method that includes, in order to achieve gate last, forming a first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, a second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and a polysilicon gate line 119c using a polysilicon has been described. The upper 30 surface of the polysilicon after the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c are formed is located at a higher position than the gate insulating film 118 on the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped 35 silicon layer 109 and the gate insulating film 118 on the diffusion layer 114 formed in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110.

Next, there is described a production method that includes forming a silicide in the upper portion of the diffusion layer 40 narized to fill, with the metal 126, the portions in which the 117 formed in the upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and in the upper portion of the diffusion layer 117 formed in the upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106.

This production method is characterized in that a silicide is 45 not formed in upper portions of the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c and in upper portions of the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillarshaped silicon layer 109 and the diffusion layer 114 formed in 50 the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110. If a silicide is formed in the upper portions of the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillarshaped silicon layer 109 and the diffusion layer 114 formed in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 55 110, the number of production steps is increased.

As shown in FIG. 26, a fourth nitride film 122 is deposited. As shown in FIG. 27, by etching the fourth nitride film 122, the fourth nitride film 122 is made to remain in a sidewall shape.

As shown in FIG. 28, a metal such as nickel or cobalt is deposited to form a silicide 123 in upper portions of the diffusion layers 117 formed in the upper portions of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106. Herein, a silicide is not formed in upper portions of 65 the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c because

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the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c are covered with the fourth nitride film 122 and the third nitride film 120. A silicide is also not formed in upper portions of the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and the diffusion layer 114 formed in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110 because the diffusion layer 113 and the diffusion layer 114 are covered with the gate insulating film 118, the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, the second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and the polysilicon gate line 119c.

The production method that includes forming a silicide in the upper portion of the diffusion layer 117 formed in the upper portion of the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and forming a silicide in the upper portion of the diffusion layer 117 formed in the upper portion of the second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 has been described.

Next, there is described a production method of gate last 20 that includes depositing an interlayer insulating film 125, exposing the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c, etching the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c, depositing a metal 126, and forming a first metal gate electrode 126b, a second metal gate electrode 126a, and a metal gate line **126***c*.

As shown in FIG. 29, a fifth nitride film 124 is deposited in order to protect the silicide 123.

As shown in FIG. 30, an interlayer insulating film 125 is deposited and planarized by chemical mechanical polishing.

As shown in FIG. 31, the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c are exposed by chemical mechanical polishing.

As shown in FIG. 32, the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c are etched. This etching is desirably performed by wet etching.

As shown in FIG. 33, a metal 126 is deposited and plafirst polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c have been present. Atomic layer deposition is preferably used.

As shown in FIG. 34, the metal 126 is etched to expose the gate insulating film 118 on the diffusion layer 113 in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and the gate insulating film 118 on the diffusion layer 114 in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110. As a result, a first metal gate electrode 126b, a second metal gate electrode **126***a*, and a metal gate line **126***c* are formed.

The production method of gate last that includes depositing the interlayer insulating film 125, exposing the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c, etching the first polysilicon gate electrode 119b, second polysilicon gate electrode 119a, and polysilicon gate line 119c, depositing the metal 126, and forming the first metal gate electrode 126b, the second metal gate electrode 126a, and the metal gate line **126***c* has been described.

Next, there is described a production method for forming contacts. Since the silicide is not formed in the upper portions of the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and the diffusion layer 114 formed in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110, a contact is directly connected to the diffusion layer 113 in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and another contact is directly connected to

the diffusion layer 114 in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110.

As shown in FIG. 35, an interlayer insulating film 127 is deposited and planarized.

As shown in FIG. 36, a fourth resist 128 for making a 5 contact hole above the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110 is formed.

As shown in FIG. 37, a contact hole 129 is made by etching the interlayer insulating film 127.

As shown in FIG. 38, the fourth resist 128 is removed.

As shown in FIG. 39, a fifth resist 130 for making contact holes above the metal gate line 126c and above the first fin-shaped silicon layer 105 and second fin-shaped silicon layer 106 is formed.

As shown in FIG. 40, contact holes 131 and 132 are made 15 by etching the interlayer insulating films 127 and 125, respectively.

As shown in FIG. 41, the fifth resist 130 is removed.

As shown in FIG. 42, the fifth nitride film 124 and the gate insulating film 118 are etched to expose the silicide 123 and 20 the diffusion layers 113 and 114, respectively.

As shown in FIG. 43, a metal is deposited to form contacts 133, 134, and 135. The production method for forming contacts has been described. Since the silicide is not formed in the upper portions of the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and the diffusion layer 114 in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110, the contact 134 is directly connected to the diffusion layer 113 in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped silicon layer 109 and the other contact 134 is 30 directly connected to the diffusion layer 114 in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped silicon layer 110.

Next, there is described a production method for forming metal wire layers.

As shown in FIG. 44, a metal 136 is deposited.

As shown in FIG. 45, sixth resists 137, 138, and 139 for forming metal wires are formed.

As shown in 46, the metal 136 is etched to form metal wires 140, 141, and 142.

As shown in FIG. 47, the sixth resists 137, 138, and 139 are 40 removed.

The production method for forming metal wire layers has been described.

FIG. 1 shows a SGT structure formed by the above-described production method.

The SGT structure includes a first fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 formed on a substrate 101 and a second finshaped semiconductor layer 106 formed on the substrate 101, the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 and the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer 106 being connected to each 50 other at their ends to form a closed loop; a first insulating film 107 formed around the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 and second fin-shaped semiconductor layer 106; a first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 109 formed in an upper portion of the fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 and a sec- 55 ond pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 110 formed in an upper portion of the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer 106, the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 109 having a width equal to the width of the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 and the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 60 110 having a width equal to the width of the second finshaped semiconductor layer 106; a diffusion layer 117 formed in an upper portion of the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 and a lower portion of the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 109, a diffusion layer 113 formed in an upper portion of the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 109, a diffusion layer 117 formed in an upper portion of the

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second fin-shaped semiconductor layer 106 and a lower portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 110, and a diffusion layer 114 formed in an upper portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 110; a silicide 123 formed in upper portions of the diffusion layers 117 formed in the upper portion of the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 and in the upper portion of the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer 106; a gate insulating film 118 formed around the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 109, a first metal gate 10 electrode **126***b* formed around the gate insulating film **118**, a gate insulating film 118 formed around the second pillarshaped semiconductor layer 110, a second metal gate electrode 126a formed around the gate insulating film 118, and a metal gate line 126c that is connected to the first metal gate electrode 126b and the second metal gate electrode 126a and that extends in a direction perpendicular to the direction in which the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer 105 and second fin-shaped semiconductor layer 106 extend; and a contact 134 formed on the diffusion layer 113 formed in the upper portion of the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 109 so as to be directly connected to the diffusion layer 113 and a contact 134 formed on the diffusion layer 114 formed in the upper portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer 110 so as to be directly connected to the diffusion layer

Accordingly, there are provided a SGT production method in which the parasitic capacitance between a gate line and a substrate is decreased, a gate last process is employed, and two transistors are produced from a single dummy pattern and a SGT structure formed by the production method.

What is claimed is:

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- 1. A semiconductor device comprising a first fin-shaped semiconductor layer on a substrate;
  - a second fin-shaped semiconductor layer on the substrate, the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer connected to each other at their ends to form a closed loop
  - a first insulating film around the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and second fin-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer on the first finshaped semiconductor layer and having a width equal to a width of the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer on the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer and having a width equal to a width of the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a first diffusion layer in an upper portion of the first finshaped semiconductor layer and a lower portion of the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a second diffusion layer in an upper portion of the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a third diffusion layer in an upper portion of the second fin-shaped semiconductor layer and a lower portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a fourth diffusion layer in an upper portion of the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a silicide in the upper portions of the first and third diffusion layers;
  - a gate insulating film around the first pillar-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a first metal gate electrode around the gate insulating film; a gate insulating film around the second pillar-shaped semiconductor layer;
  - a second metal gate electrode around the gate insulating film:
  - a metal gate line connected to the first metal gate electrode and the second metal gate electrode and extending in a

direction perpendicular to a direction in which the first fin-shaped semiconductor layer and second fin-shaped semiconductor layer extend;
a contact on the upper portion of the second diffusion layer and directly connected to the second diffusion layer; and a contact on the upper portion of the fourth diffusion layer and directly connected to the fourth diffusion layer.

\* \* \* \* \*

# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 9,117,690 B2 Page 1 of 1

APPLICATION NO. : 14/083060

DATED : August 25, 2015

INVENTOR(S) : Masuoka et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

### In the Claims

Column 14, claim 1, line 37, immediately after "to form a closed loop" insert --;--.

Signed and Sealed this Third Day of May, 2016

Michelle K. Lee

Michelle K. Lee

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office